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School Rover



FINAL TERM FOR 2010

The elapsing of another year is solemnly anticipated by the start of the final school term for 2010. Seniors were reminded during the first assembly of the proximity of their long-awaited termination of their schooldays. It was more accentuated when expressed in number of days - and not months, weeks or seasons.

However, it was back to business as usual when important events were dotted on the calendar. Coming up this term would be the official opening of various buildings on the property which have popped up almost at the proverbial blink of the eyes. These buildings included the Primary Library, the Multi-purpose Centre and the Music Room/Sound studio.

Principal, Ms **Jean Illingworth** emphasized the importance for students to put the remaining time to good advantage in terms of study, application and achievements.

(above) Jawa Guligo preparing for the Term 4 battle

The first assembly for the term was not bulging anywhere near the roll expectancy so various teachers and staff were assigned to a search and rally exercise to prompt latecomers and absentees to re-surface re-engage in their educational pursuits.

Both boys and girls selected in teams from the Middle School would be making an overland trip to the tip of the Cape for a series of games in Aussie Rules competing against teams from Cape York Peninsula and Torres Strait. Another contingent of boys will be spending a week down at All Souls College on the Gold Coast as a reciprocal visit. Four All Souls' students earlier this year enjoyed one week of boarding life at Djarragun as part of their cultural interaction programme.

The recruitment drive through the Torres Strait by members of the staff rendered promising results for enrolments in 2011. The final chapter for the school year at Djarragun has been set in motion.



Mr. Vimal deployed his Fijian taste-bud twist to the crabs (right) caught on Boigu and cooked on Saibai



Recruitment is a hard task when one is forced to bask in the afternoon glow of the Tropics (left) and then 'osmose' a couple of the former inhabitants of a seafood basket. Both images are good enough to boost the tourist hype for the region as well as preempt an episode of 'Ilan Chef'.

RECRUITMENT & VISITATION

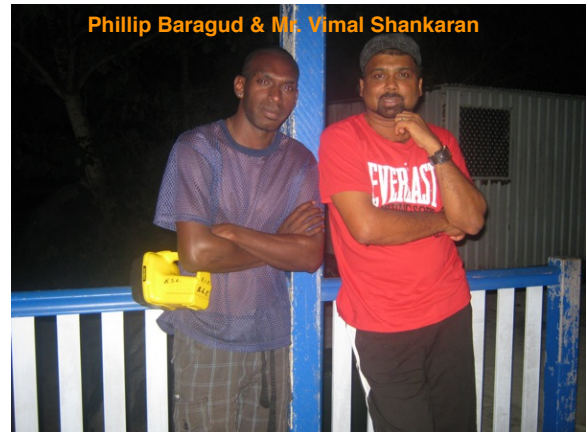
*Torres Strait Island Promotional Trip
20 - 24th September 2010*

Mr. Vimal Shankaran, Richard Savage, Paul Garong During September 20 -24, **Mr. Vimal Shankaran, Uncle Paul Garong** and **Mr. Richard Savage** made the customary annual jaunt - island hopping through the Torres Strait. They met up with parents to discuss and report on the students progress and also made presentations to promote enrolments for 2011. This is the only time when members of the Djarragun staff make an official visit to the outer islands of Torres Strait each year. Making personal contact in this manner promotes the face of the school and maintains the relationship and support for past students.

Uncle Paul provided notes about the essential elements of the promotional trip -

Sept. 20 - "Our first port of call was Boigu Island where we met up with **Jimmy Dau, Derek Ingui, Delita Aruba, Gloria Ganaia, John Dau, Daniel Toby** and **Steven Aruba**.

Apart from catching up with Delita's parents May and Steven Aruba, we also caught up with **Mr. Scott Gibuma (3rd below)** - the Island Manager on Boigu Island.



Uncle Paul continues -

"We flew across to Saibai Island and got picked up by **Mr. Jerry Babia** who is the Quarantine Office on Saibai.

Mr. Shankaran spoke to some parents from PNG who were pretty interested in our school programmes. On Saibai, we spoke to the parents about graduation preparation for their students. Students we met with were **Mark Akiba, Andrew Akiba, Patrick Atu, Sepa Wosomo, Amy Aragu, Lilly Nomoa** (who is working at the Saibai Island Council Office).





Arrived at Masig and had a meeting with April Mosby's mum Bertha Mosby. We also spoke to her about April Mosby with her graduation plan. We also caught up with **Desmond Billy, Sheena Billy & Rosaline Billy**.

From Yorke Island at 3:00p.m., we headed for Yam Island. Our students were waiting for us at the airport. We checked into the guesthouse then we caught up with parents in the evening.

Sept. 23 - We departed Yam Island for Darnley where we caught up with the Island Manager, **Daisy Ketchell**. We dropped some pamphlets and spoke with a few people in the Council Office, including Aunty Lency Sailor's sister. On the way back to the airport, we visited **Meo Thaiday's** mum."

We also met with Mr. & Mrs. **Maira and Lala Jackonia**.

Our first sleepover was at the guesthouse on Saibai.

Sept. 21 - We landed on Badu Island where we were picked up by Aunty Fay. She also had parents lined up for interview before we got there. The parents were **Josephine Tipoti** and **Mesela Elisala**, both mothers have been sending their children to Djarragun and they are loyal to our College. Students we met at Badu were **Charlie Dau, Peter Wosomo, Aniba Waianga** and **Ted Richard**.



The final stint in the outer islands tour was to Murray Island where we discovered one of our graduates from 2006, Ms **Roseline Day** (above) working as Acting Manager in the Council Office.

Uncle **Paul Garong**



Uncle Paul Garong & Wosomo bros

Sept. 22 - Arrived at Kubin and got picked up by **Kura Newie** from the Mica Newie Transport. We overnighted at the motel on St. Paul's community and managed to deliver some pamphlets and brochures at the council office.

We caught up with Mrs. **Louisa Manas** who is the Island Manager for Kubin Council and mother of **Francis Manas**. She was really supportive of us; she managed to collect some parents to speak with us about enrolling students for next year. Students we caught up with were **Tyrone Tomsana, Ruby Atu, Louisa Joe** and **David Bousen**



The Three Muster-seers

ABOARD FROM ABROAD

An 'awesome foursome' to join our company is a German troupe. Volunteers from Lattitude is an organization which promotes each year approximately 150 volunteers who arrive in Australia from the UK, Europe, Canada and South Africa to undertake placements around the country in schools, at Outdoor Education camps and in environmental conservation (centres).'

Welcome to **Patrick Lederer, Neel Rahders, Hendrick Hoenemann & Sven Weida** who are making a stopover at Djarragun for almost one year (Oct 2010 - Aug. 2011).

Hey, guys.

My name is **Patrick** and I'm from Wuppertal a small city in Germany. This year was my graduation. I had two opportunities to go further. On one hand was the army and on the other hand a social year. I wanted to spend a social year in Australia and now I'm here. I didn't want to do a social year in Germany because I would like to get some new experiences and to improve my English.

Australia is a really beautiful place and I love being here. The area around Cairns is especially awesome. All the people are so friendly and the nature is really fantastic.

At the moment, I'm working in the Boarding at Djarragun and the contact with the students is a good way to learn their culture and to make some new friends. After this Year, I want to study renewable energy sources in Germany and maybe later come back to Australia.

Best regards **Patrick Lederer**



Hi. My name is **Hendrik**. I am 19 and a volunteer at Djarragun College for the next 9 months.

I assist teachers in sport lessons or help with the Multilit program. After the summer break, I am supposed to help in the boarding.

I grew up in a small town in the north west of Germany. Maybe for Australians, it would be considered quite a big town.

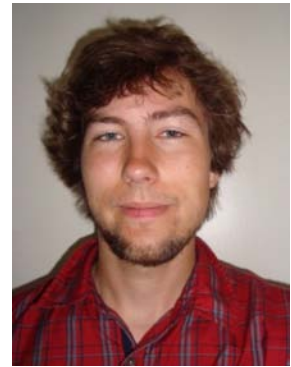
There, I graduated school in June and came to this College in October to enjoy new experiences and get to know a new culture. Actually, I am in luck in that I can get to know two different cultures (Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait).

In my free time, I like to do a lot of sports. For that reason, I play soccer in a club in Germany.

After my gap year, I will go to university or start training as a mechanical engineer.

However, first of all, I want to have a good time at Djarragun College. **Hendrik Hoenemann**

Hello (or rather, G'day), My name is **Neel Rahders**. I'm 19 years old and my home town is Hannover in the north of Germany. I just finished High school this summer with the German "Abitur" after Grade 13 and I'm probably going to study **M e c h a n i c a l Engineering** next year.



I'm here at Djarragun College for almost 12 months to work here as a volunteer. I'm doing this instead of doing the compulsory military service for 6 months in Germany because I think the volunteer work here is more meaningful than military service.

I hope to gain a lot of experiences here - like getting to know other cultures, ways of life and different living spaces. Also, I want to improve my English and get practical knowledge in social work.

My first impressions of the school grounds and the people here are very good and I think I will enjoy staying here. Also, I hope to have a great time with all the staff and students here and get to know all of them a bit better during the year.

My main fear about this year is actually the really hot and humid dry seasons here but I think I will manage to deal with it somehow.

Cheers, **Neel Rahders**



My name is **Sven Weida**. I'm 20 years old and I come from the southern part of Germany. I grew up in a village near Karlsruhe, which is in the Black Forest.

Before I started my gap year at Djarragun College, I did an apprenticeship as an industrial mechanic in the biggest researching centre in Germany.

My hobbies are bicycle riding, climbing, sports, travelling and meeting with friends. I hope I can learn a lot of things here in the College and from you.

One of my objective is that I would like to enjoy as many experiences as possible. Thanks for the great start. I hope we all will have these great 11 months together with mutual cooperation. **Sven Weida**



CAMPBELL CLARKE

Welcome to new staff member, Mr. **Campbell Clarke**, who is preparing and editing the material for this year's College magazine. In addition, he is compiling the Annual Report for the College.

Campbell has joined Djarragun College for a few months this year to help produce

the school magazine and annual report.

'It's a short time to get to know hundreds of staff and students and how the school works, but it's a lot of fun. Everyone has been most welcoming, even when being cajoled to have their photo taken yet again for the magazine.'

Campbell spent the past ten years in Cairns working with the Wet Tropics making books, brochures, posters and websites to educate people about the rainforests and their many weird and wonderful animals and plants. Before that he was a teacher and tour guide in the Northern Territory.

BOARDING MANAGER

Welcome also to Mr. **David Parrington** who is the new Assistant Principal (Boarding and Pastoral Care). He grew up in the Byron Bay hinterland in a small village called Eureka before moving to the Gold Coast. He completed a Bachelor of Applied Science and Bachelor of Education at Queensland University of Technology. While studying, David worked as a musician in a traditional Irish Band. With the money he saved, he was able to travel extensively to places such as India, Nepal, throughout Europe, Japan and throughout South East Asia. He started teaching as a Biology and Mathematics Teacher at Trinity Lutheran College and then as a Senior Mathematics teacher at All Saints Anglican School. While teaching, David and his wife, Elouise, who is a Senior French and Japanese teacher worked together as Heads of Boarding of International House (the International Boarding House at All Saints) for almost 4 years. David believes these years were some of the best and most fulfilling years of his life. David later became a Head of House at All Saints.



David is enjoying living and working at Djarragun College. His family has already fallen in love with Far North Queensland and has appreciated the warm welcome received from the staff and students at Djarragun College.



This week sees Uncle **Sam Pau** and Uncle **Mapa Kudub** changing their roles and undertaking different duties at DC and Wangetti. As such, they will not be attached to the Learning Support Department. We thank both for their valuable individual contributions and wish them always the very best.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Somewhat like the 'Phantom of the Opera' scenario, the behind-the-scenes operation trudges along sturdily under the vigilant and benign eyes of Mr. **Alan Kroll**.

Reading Program

We're all excited about the new revamped reading program and will begin with a two-week boys/girls turnaround theme. Starting with Ghost Stories, we aim to really inspire the boarders with visually exciting stories mixed with multimedia, performance, strobe lights and fog machines.

Testing

Term 4 testing will begin next week. All MS students will be 'Probed' over the week coming and their results will be entered into our database and compared to Term 1 results. Of course, the hope here is to see impressive improvement after many months of literacy interventions and the wonderful teaching of our Middle School teachers.

Welcome Ms Mbongeleni Chigeza

Welcome back to Learning Support again, Mbongeleni. We all appreciate your involvement with LS and the wonderful expertise and unique student insights you bring.

LS School Officers Applications

Currently I am finalising the applications for the 2 school officer workers who will be attached to the Learning Support Dept., and who will principally work in the Senior School, providing support to Mr. **Matthew Curtis** and his team and, of course, the students.

Staff Acknowledgements

Thank you, Ms **Felicity Hoffmann** for your wonderful work assisting with the development of our Ghost Stories and creating that impressive scythe. Well done to Farrah for successfully 'acclimatising' to the Stars group. Thank you Uncle Aurie Marou & Aunty Harriet Tapim for your happy spirit. Thank you teachers for all your hard work with our students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MANIA

"Fair is foul and foul is fair. Hover through the fog and filthy air."

Shakespeare might well have been describing a scene around the school recently. Certainly, 'the eye of toad' was in the picture, smoke, slimy mysteries in a box and crystals forming before your eyes.

Science with a few bangs, carnival attire and the moments of the unexpected to dwell upon, collided in regimented complicity.



Mr. David's Year 10s required some astronomical savvy and it took just shy of a light year of thoughtful pacing up and down before someone was finally able to place the planets in ordered orbits of proximity from the sun.

A furtive mouse (aply named, Houdini) survived the even more furtive handling by numerous sets of clammy hands before toads in their colourfully painted Melbourne Cup strips made their appearance in the racing circle showing less pre-race nerves than their respective handlers.



One informative station displayed bush foods from the Australian flora shelf that didn't include any of the '11 secret herbs and spices' attributed to one product of fast food fame. Attendants to the 'jet propulsion exhibition' must have attached balloons to themselves and propelled themselves around the rest of the Expo like errant space debris.

Mr. **Gio Douven** and his Year 8 cohorts entered the foray with a mystery construction exercise involving besser brick blocks and a huge tarpaulin.. These were used to form a sizable pool which provided the base for their 'hydroplane' demonstration. Ingenuity and a high level of cooperation were brought to the fore in this very practical exhibition.



To bring the Science Fair to an eventful termination, the Middle School staff performed a couple of songs to entertain the select audience of the Middle School Eyes Only. Stalking somewhere in the offstage perimeter, Principal Ms **Jean Illingworth** pressed for an encore for the purpose of capturing rare video footage. It seems posterity is also destined to suffer.

Sarah Street (above) sustains the high pitch tension at the Mystery Box Touch Test. Some take the plunge with stoicism but Stephen Auda looks set to challenge Usain Bolt for the 100 metres sprint world record.



'Hip Hop' with the toads.



BACK ON TRACK PROGRAMME

The Back on Track boys have made great improvement with their attitude towards work, resulting in harmony and bonding within the group. The attendance still has its up and downs at times, with **Titus Tamwoy** being the big improver. His attendance has kept improving all term to the stage where he is a regular attendee. **Jordal Bana** takes the prize with a 100% record on BOT. **Jordal** and **Gibson Joe** have been studying hard and have passed their learner drivers and are now chipping away at the required 100 driving hours to obtain their 'P' licences. This is so important for these boys to be able to drive as it is a requirement for most employers in the building and service industries.

We had a new student, **Daniel Poonkamelya** aged 13, from Aurukun join the group 3 weeks ago. He has settled in well and has had to learn quickly about the respect for other students' work and their feelings. He is so keen to be a part of this group that he is over at the shed before 8:00 a.m. every morning. He is such a likeable kid. This has also been an important lesson for the other boys as they are now seen as a role models for young Daniel. So they must stand tall as all of these students will be returning back into the classroom next term. I feel sure they all have a positive belief in themselves, respect for others and re-defined directions for their future. **Mr. Rob McBride**



(Top) Titus Tamwoy enjoys this type of 'burnout' while below him Jordal Bana joins the left-handed trio.

YuMi Deadly Centre Queensland University of Technology

Four members of Djarragun Middle School staff were whisked down to Townsville for the last two days of Term 3 to participate in further inservice workshopping in



Maths with Ms **Janet Cavanagh** and Professor **Tom Cooper**. Ms **Michelle Hill**, Ms **Caitlin Burman**, Mr. **Gio Douven** & Mr. **Ross Walters** joined teachers from other schools



which cater for indigenous students - Woorabinda, Palm Island, Charters Towers, Abergowrie, Townsville and Wangetti.

